(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The total domestic production (provisional) of crude oil during 2004-05 is 34.05 Million Metric Tonne (MMT).

(b) The import of crude oil during the above period was about 95.315 MMT (provisional).

(c) and (d) Several important steps have taken to increase oil and gas production to meet the domestic requirements. These include the following:—

(i) improving the recovery factor from existing major fields by implementing Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) schemes, in particular, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) have taken up 15 fields for this purpose at an estimated investment of Rs. 10,972 crore, which would also help in accelerating oil production from these fields;

(ii) increasing exploration efforts through the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP), Under the four rounds of NELP, Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) have been signed for 90 blocks. The Fifth Round of NELP has been declared open as of 4th January, 2005 to invite bids for 20 exploration blocks; The bids close on 31.5.2005.

(iii) exploring new areas, especially in deep water and difficult frontier areas, as also the deeper layers of already producing fields;

(iv) developing newly discovered fields speedily and stepping up the use of new technologies for seismic surveys, work over, stimulation operations, drilling of wells etc. in producing areas.

Production of natural gas

2891. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BALAPTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of natural gas produced from different sources in the

States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Assam and other States during the last three years.

(b) the amount and rate of royalty paid to each State; and

(c) whether in the light of the recent judgement of the Supreme Court any enactment or regulatory model is contemplated to enable the States to have their own policy for exploitation of their petroleum and gas resources and if so, the steps taken and being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Royalty on natural gas is paid at the rate of 10% of the value of natural gas obtained at well head. The quantity of natural gas produced in various States and the amount of royalty paid during the years 2000-01 to 2003-04 are given below:

State	Gas production & Royalty paid	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Andhra Pradesh	Gas production (MMSCM)	1604.00	1796.00	2038.00	1927.00
	Royalty paid (Rs. crores)	30.07	32.43	35.51	35.48
Assam	Gas production (MMSCM)	2199.72	1990.87	2046.53	2203.62
	Royalty paid. (Rs. crores)	16.57	13.86	14.26	19.36
Gujarat	Gas production (MMSCM)	3149.00	3170.00	3531.00	3517.00
	Royalty paid (Rs. crores)	53.06	46.62	84.12	74.48
Rajasthan	Gas production (MMSCM)	159.46	101.38	161.55	168.13
	Royalty paid (Rs. crores)	1.22	0.76	1.37	1.39
Tamil Nadu	Gas production (MMSCM)	200.00	349.00	466.00	605.00
	Royalty paid (Rs. crores)	2.79	5.37	7.58	11.03
Tripura	Gas production (MMSCM)	376.00	416.00	446.00	508.00
	Royalty paid (Rs. crores)	5.39	5.74	5.75	5.94

(MMSCM: Million Standard Cubic Metres)

(c) No, Sir. There is no such direction in the judgment of the Supreme Court.

Removal of LPG from VAT

2892. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India LPG Distributors Federation has threatened that if LPG was not spared from the imposition of VAT, they would stop supply of LPG throughout the country with effect from the 15th of April, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto and the steps taken by his Ministry to take up the matter with the Ministry of Finance?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The issue of removal of VAT on LPG was raised by All India LPG Distributors Federation (AILDF) with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG). AILDF have been advised to take up the matter directly with the Empowered Committee of the State Finance Ministers/Ministry of Finance.

Production of petrol from vegetations

2893. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that a kind of vegetation is grown in the State of Uttaranchal which can be used in producing petrol and petroleum products;

(b) if so, whether a proposal for introduction of a plan in co-operation with State Government for encouraging the commercial production of such vegetation with financial help from ONGC will be considered by him; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Petroleum products, including petrol, and diesel,